

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 EUR-25 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-20 RSR-01 /141 W

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P R 301110Z JUL 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7404

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KARACHI 1329

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PK

SUBJECT: BALUCHISTAN -- OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS OF SOLDIERS KILLED
IN RECENT INCIDENTS

REF: KARACHI 1303

BEGIN SUMMARY: JULY 29 BOTH GOVERNOR AKBAR BUGTI
AND INTERSERVICES PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
(ISPR)

ISLAMABAD RECOUNTED CONSISTENT DETAILS OF TWO RECENT
INCIDENTS, ONE IN MARRI AREA AND ONE IN MENGAL AREA OF
BALUCHISTAN, WHICH CLAIMED LIVES OF SEVEN SOLDIERS, ONE CIVILIAN
MILITARY DRIVER AND RESULTED IN INJURIES TO 11 SOLDIERS AND
1 CIVILIAN. END SUMMARY.

1. MARRI AREA INCIDENT: ACCORDING TO GOVERNOR BUGTI
AND ISPR RELEASE, ON JULY 26 AT TALLI TANGI IN MARRI
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AREA, LOCATED 28 MILES FROM SIBI ON THE NEWLY CON-

STRUCTED SIBI-MAWAND ROAD, ARMY ENGINEER CREW
ENGAGED IN ROUTINE ROAD MAINTENANCE WAS FIRED ON.
FOUR SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED IN ATTACK.

2. MENGAL AREA INCIDENT: GOVERNOR'S AND MILITARY'S
ACCOUNT STATE THAT NIGHT OF JULY 27-28 A TRUCK CARRYING
TROOPS ENGAGED IN ROUTINE ROAD PATROL DUTY WAS FIRED ON
BY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FROM HILLTOP NEAR SORO, IN JHALA-
WAN AREA 17 MILES NORTH OF KALAT ON KHUZDAR-QUETTA
HIGHWAY. THREE SOLDIERS AND THE CIVILIAN DRIVER OF THE
TRUCK WERE KILLED WHILE TEN SOLDIERS AND A CIVILIAN WERE
WOUNDED.

3. COMMENT: GENERALLY THE ARMY IS VERY QUIET ABOUT
ITS LOSSES IN THE TRIBAL AREAS. TIMING OF BUGTI'S STATE-
MENT IN QUETTA AND MILITARY'S RELEASE IN ISLAMABAD
SUGGESTS STRONGLY ANNOUNCEMENTS COORDINATED. PUB-
LICATION OF THIS INFORMATION OFFERS REASONABLE CONFIRMATION
OF RUMORS OF GUERRILLA TYPE INCIDENTS IN BALUCHISTAN
AND PRESENTS ILLUSTRATION TO SUPPORT GOVERNOR BUGTI'S
CONTENTION AT HIS MEETING WITH PRESS JULY 29 THAT CON-
DITIONS IN PROVINCE GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE. THESE
ANNOUNCEMENTS MAY FORECAST STRONGER GOVERNMENT
ACTION IN PROVINCE TO RECTIFY SITUATION.
TIGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KARACH01329
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KARACHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973074/aaaaachd.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 KARACHI 1303
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BALUCHISTAN -- OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS OF SOLDIERS KILLED IN RECENT INCIDENTS
TAGS: PINS, PK
To: SECSTATE WASHDC ISLAMABAD KABUL LAHORE TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005